

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An NBC protection and decontamination system, comprising:
 - a space delimited by an enclosure, said enclosure having a clean air inlet port and an air outlet;
 - a decontamination unit attached or attachable to the outside of said enclosure, said decontamination unit having a plenum and a chamber separated from the plenum by an air flow laminator; at least one air inlet valve communicating with the air outlet of said enclosure and leading to said plenum and to at least one air exhaust valve made in said chamber, spaced apart from said air inlet valve;
 - an opening, providing controlled passage between said enclosure and said decontamination unit, and
 - an opening in said decontamination unit, providing controlled passage between said unit and the outside.
2. The NBC protection and decontamination system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said plenum is located above said chamber.
3. The NBC protection and decontamination system as claimed in claim 2, wherein said air outlet is associated with said plenum.
4. The NBC protection and decontamination system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the air inside said enclosure is distributed via an air manifold.
5. The NBC protection and decontamination system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said air outlet is an over-pressure valve.

6. The NBC protection and decontamination system as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of said openings is a closable opening.
7. The NBC protection and decontamination system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said enclosure is further provided with a closable door providing a direct passageway into and from the space within said enclosure.
8. The NBC protection and decontamination system as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least some of said walls and surfaces are made of flexible material.
9. The NBC protection and decontamination system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said enclosure is a collapsible tent.
10. The NBC protection and decontamination system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said air outlet is located along an upper wall of said enclosure, opposite said air inlet.
11. The NBC protection and decontamination system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the air inlet of said decontamination unit is an over-pressure valve.
12. The NBC protection and decontamination system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said decontamination unit is composed of an upper plenum communicating with said air outlet and a chamber communicating with said air exhaust valve, said plenum and said chamber being separated from each other by an air laminator.
13. The NBC protection and decontamination system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said access openings are closable by means of zippers, magnetic flaps or Velcro® strips or tapes.

14. The NBC protection and decontamination system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said exhaust valves are made integrally with, or are affixed to, the floor of said decontamination unit.

15. The NBC protection and decontamination system as claimed in claim 12, wherein said air laminator is formed by a plurality of small apertures distributed about at least a major cross-sectional area of said chamber.

16. The NBC protection and decontamination system as claimed in claim 15, wherein said small apertures are configured to create an overpressure in said plenum relative to the pressure in the chamber.

17. The NBC protection and decontamination system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the sum of the areas of said small apertures is less than 90% of the area of the air inlet to said plenum.

18. The NBC protection and decontamination system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the number of said small apertures is more than 10 times greater than the number of air inlets to the plenum.

19. The NBC protection and decontamination system as claimed in claim 1, wherein air exhaust openings from the chamber have a diameter less than 10mm. or a free space less than 70mm^2 per opening.

20. The NBC protection and decontamination system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the sum of the areas of said small apertures is more than 10% than the sum of the areas of air openings of said exhaust valves.

21. An NBC protection and decontamination system, comprising:
 - a space delimited by an enclosure constituted of walls and surfaces, said enclosure having at least one clean air inlet port and at least one air outlet;
 - a decontamination unit attached to a wall of said enclosure, said decontamination unit having at least one air inlet communicating with said air outlet from the enclosure and at least one air exhaust valve spaced apart from said air inlet;
 - said decontamination unit further having normally closed access openings to the enclosed space and to the outside;
 - the arrangement being such that clean air flow within the space inside said enclosure is directed from one wall to an opposite wall in which said air outlet is located and air inside said decontamination unit is directed substantially from one end of the unit to the other end, so as to produce laminar air flow through said enclosed space and said decontamination unit.
22. An NBC protection and decontamination method, comprising:
 - providing a system as claimed in claim 1 or claim 21;
 - directing air across said enclosed space towards said decontamination unit through at least one overpressure valve;
 - entering the directed air into said plenum;
 - producing a laminar airflow inside said chamber, and allowing air to exit from said chamber through at least one air exhaust valve.
23. The NBC protection and decontamination method as claimed in claim 22, wherein said plenum is located above said chamber and laminar air flow is directed from the top of said decontamination unit to its bottom.

24. The NBC protection and decontamination method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the space inside said enclosure can be accessed only via said decontamination unit.